8/IDS 6/18/03 DBEIL PATENT

Car 06/04/03 23-59243 197635 13104-E

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

application of: Autrey et al.

Application No. 10/001,235

Filed: November 13, 2001

For: ARRAY-BASED PHOTOACOUSTIC

SPECTROSCOPY

Examiner: Richard A. Rosenberger

Date: June 4, 2003

Art Unit 2877

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on June 4, 2003 as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)

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Listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449 and enclosed herewith are several English-language and/or non-English-language documents. The German reference DE10004816 is relevant for the same reasons as its corresponding published U.S. application (Application No. US2002/0017617A1) is relevant. Please see the disclosed, published U.S. application. Applicants respectfully request that these documents be listed as references cited on the issued patent. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the date of either a final action or, a notice of allowance, and before payment of the issue fee.

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Respectfully submitted,

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